

REMARKS

The claims have been amended so that the portable object further includes “a second electronic circuit which causes the piezoelectric transducer to operate as a vibration source for an acoustic generator.” For the reasons discussed below, the prior art of record neither discloses, nor suggests a portable object, as recited in the amended claims, containing this feature. Claim 1 has also been amended to delete the phrase “such as.” This amendment has no effect on the scope of the claim.

Fig. 2 has been amended, as discussed above, to include new drawing Fig. 2 includes a box referenced 46 located at connection point "f" that comprises the output of conversion stage 44. This amendment is supported at page 8, lines 12-15 of the specification. Line 15 of page 8 of the specification has been amended accordingly. Amended Fig. 2 also includes a diode designated by D_1 has also been represented on new drawing figure 2, this diode being mounted in series with coil L_1 . This amendment is supported at page 5, lines 32-34 of the original specification. Line 33 of page 5 of the specification has been amended accordingly.

The Rejections:

The drawings stand objected to under 37 C.F.R. 1.83(a), for failing to disclose the microprocessor, the second electronic circuit, and the diode. The amended Fig. 2 is believed to overcome these objections and withdrawal of the rejection is respectfully requested.

Claims 1-15 stand rejected under section 112 as indefinite for containing the phrase “such as.” This phrase has been deleted from the claims and withdrawal of the rejection is respectfully requested.

Claims 4-10 stand rejected as failing to comply with the enablement requirement for allegedly failing to enable one skilled in the art to which the invention pertains to enable one

to make or use (1) the amplification and conversion means of claim 4; (2) the filtering means of claim 5; (3) the inverter of claim 8; and (4) the polarization resistor of claim 10.

Applicant attaches a declaration of Pierre-André Farine, Professor of Electrical Engineering and Signal Processing at the Institute of Microtechnology, University of Neuchâtel, Switzerland, to rebut the unsupported assertions of the Examiner. First, a rejection under section 112 requires a reasonable basis. Mere conjecture is not sufficient. Second, with respect to each of the elements that the Examiner claims are not enabled, Professor Farine is able to testify that based on the specific elements disclosed in the original specification, and ordinary skill, one of ordinary skill in the art would be able to produce the portable object claimed. Since the Examiner has cited no probative evidence to support his rejection, the declaration of Professor Farine is more than sufficient to overcome the rejection under section 112, and reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejection is earnestly solicited.

Claims 1 and 2 stand rejected under section 102(b) as allegedly anticipated by JP Patent No. 401270694 to Murakami et al. (hereinafter Murakami). Claims 3-10 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Murakami et al. in view of Mutrux. Numerous official notices are made in the outstanding action, and applicant respectfully traverses all such notices. Thus, if the rejection of claims 7-10 and 15 is to be maintained, references must be supplied to teach each and every point noticed in the rejection.

In response to the above rejections, claim 3 has been deleted and its subject matter has been introduced in claim 1.

New claim 1 now recites a portable object including a piezoelectric transducer generating an electric voltage when mechanical pressure is exerted, said piezoelectric transducer being arranged in the bottom portion of said portable object and being rigidly

connected to it, the portable object further comprising a second electronic circuit that causes the piezoelectric transducer to operate as a vibration source for an acoustic generator.

Murakami discloses an electronic clock comprising a case, a piezoelectric element which generates an electric voltage when mechanical pressure is applied on the clock. The clock of Murakami is arranged in the bottom portion of the case and bonded therewith.

Mutrux discloses (see column 2, lines 40-47) a piezoelectric element 9 that is used both for the indication of an alarm time (sound generation), as well as for the reception of acoustic signals to control different functions of a timepiece. Contrary to the Examiner's allegations, Mutrux does not disclose a timepiece having a piezoelectric transducer, which generates a logic signal in response to a pressure exerted. Thus, for this reason the combination of references neither anticipates nor renders obvious the presently claimed invention.

Furthermore, neither Murakami, nor Mutrux discloses or even suggests a portable object as presently claimed including a piezoelectric transducer which both operates as a vibration source for an acoustic generator and generates a logic signal in response pressure exerted.

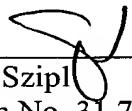
In view of the above, new claim 1 is novel and non-obvious over the prior art documents cited by the Examiner and is thus patentable.

Accordingly, it is believed that the application is in good condition for examination.

Questions are welcomed by the below-signed attorney for applicant.

Respectfully submitted,

GRIFFIN & SZIPL, P.C.



Joerg-Uwe Szimpl
Registration No. 31,799

GRIFFIN & SZIPL, P.C.
Suite PH-1
2300 Ninth Street, South
Arlington, VA 22204

Telephone: (703) 979-5700
Facsimile: (703) 979-7429
Email: g&s@szipl.com
Customer No.: 24203

Fig. 2

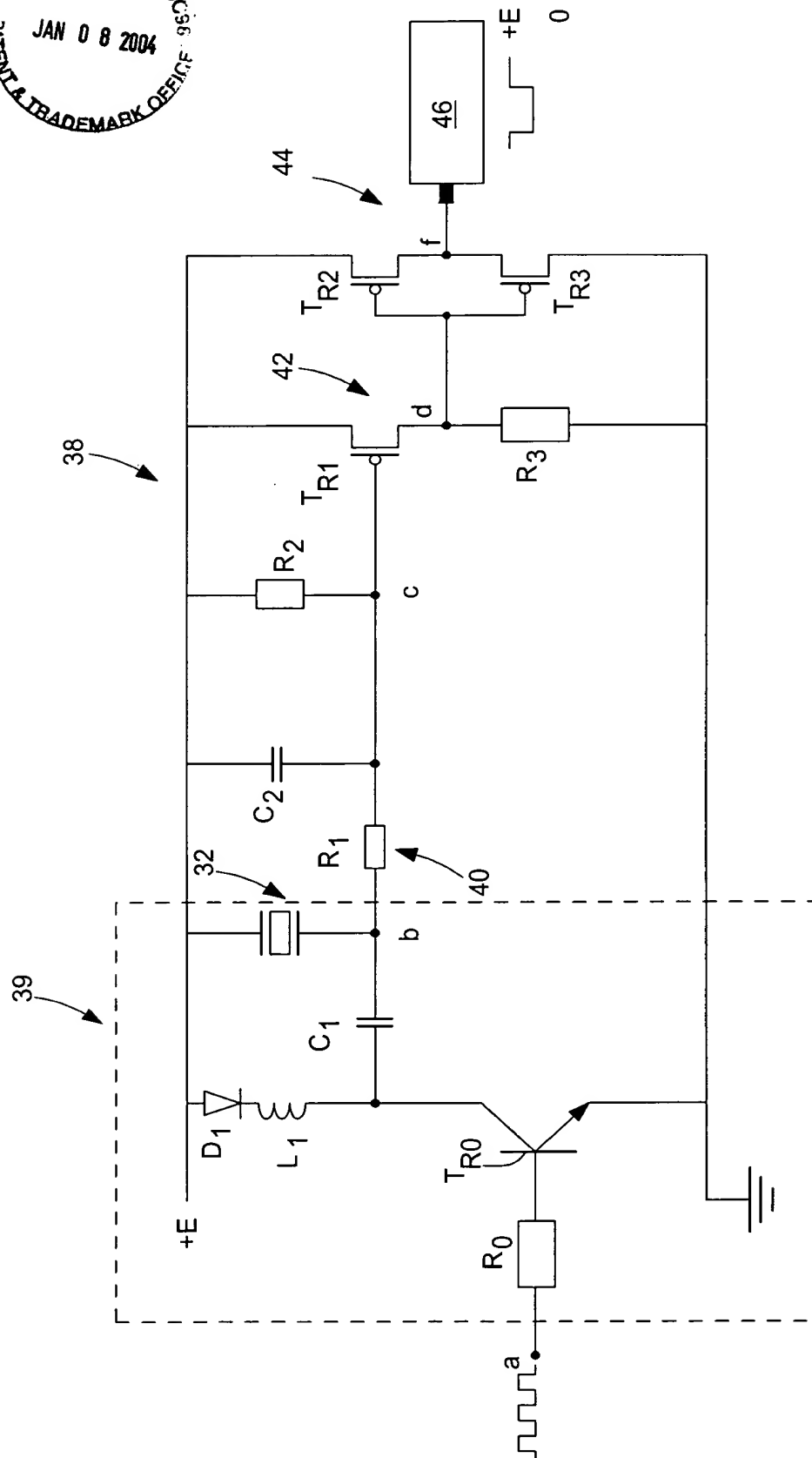




Fig. 2

